

Aging effects discussed by 5 panelists

By LAWRENCE DE MARIA

The U.S. Public Health Service Hospital was the scene last night of an open meeting sponsored by the Richmond Coordinating Committee of the United Hospital Fund. The meeting, titled "Adding Life to Years," was presided over by Mrs. Charles Miller, chairman of the planning committee. The discussion was preceded by a reception.

Richard C. Herrmann, vice-president for administration of St. Vincent's Medical Center, moderated and served as a panelist. He opened the discussion by saying that the medical fraternity "must shed the traditional clinical approach to aging and treat it as the natural occurrence which it is."

Bernard Berggren, associate vice-president of the American Association for Retired Persons,

detailed the many ways his organization promotes activity among the aged. "Our object is to get the aged involved so that they can help themselves, so they don't die of loneliness," he said.

Mrs. Jack Hammond of Willowbrook State School, substituting for Mrs. Harold W. Reisch of SERVE, explained the many services performed by elderly volunteers at Willowbrook.

Nicholas D. Demisay, administrator of the Clove Lakes Nursing Home, spoke briefly about the various types of nursing homes available to aged persons, and the future of nursing homes.

The final panelist, Mrs. Fletcher Wells, chairman of the Richmond Coordinating Committee, remarked that her committee is concerned with the elderly and their contribution to the community, as well as the community's contribution to them.

The panelists were all agreed that an effort must be made to promote an image of the elderly as active members of the community.

After the panel discussion, Sverre Ulvestat, director of Eger Lutheran Home, joined the panelists in answering queries.